

Jewish Agency jubilee

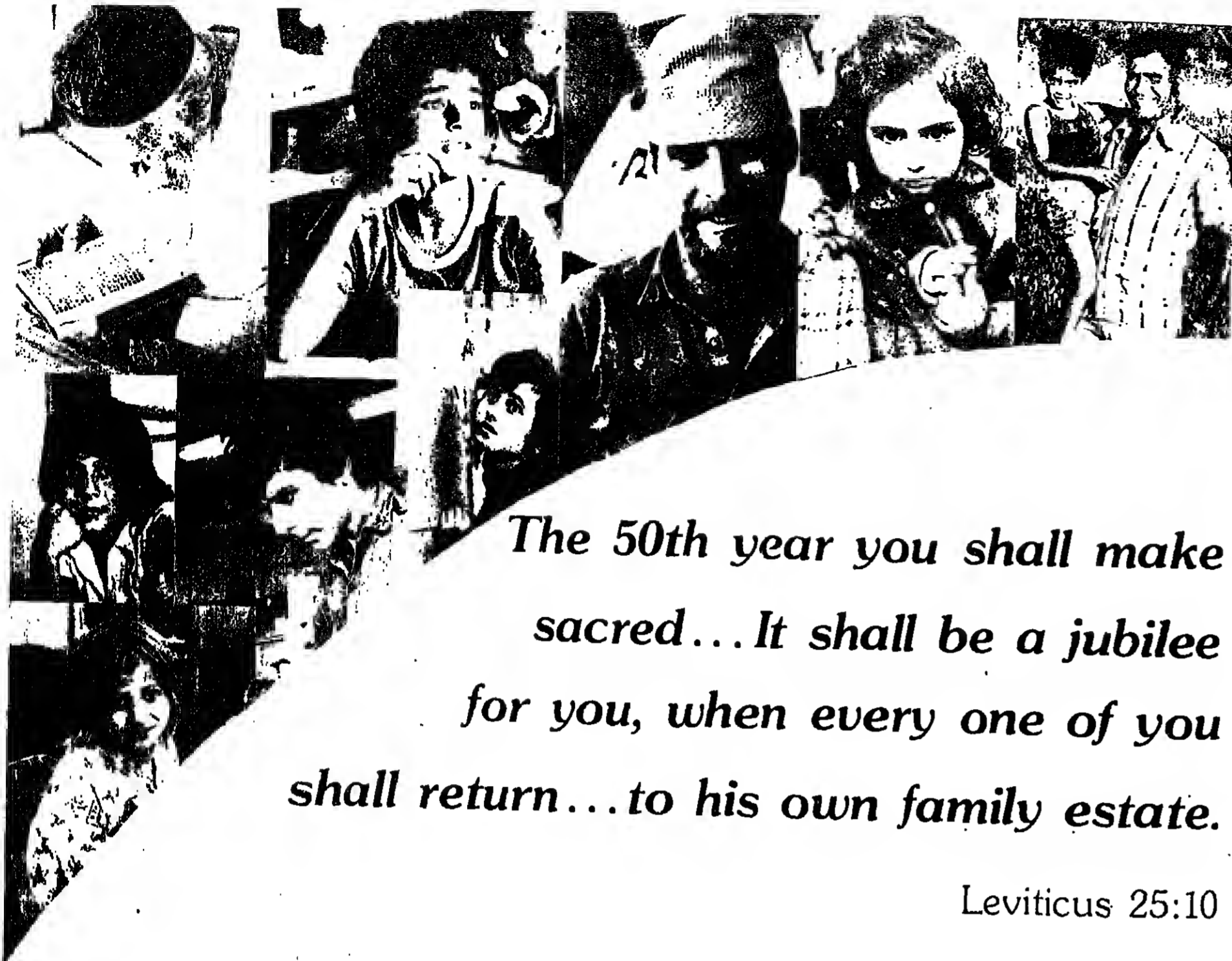


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כבוד מלכותך ייחיד

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The 50th year you shall make sacred... It shall be a jubilee for you, when every one of you shall return... to his own family estate.

Leviticus 25:10

Jubilee — The fiftieth year, the 'joyful noise' of the ram's horn — proclaims 'liberty to all the land, to all its inhabitants.'

For half a century, the Jewish Agency has been working to make the joy of liberty meaningful to Jews as they ingather to the family estate of Israel.

For four decades of that time, the United Jewish Appeal has taken pride in its partnership efforts on behalf of the Jewish Agency, mobilizing the financial resources of the American Jewish community to support and sustain the work of Jewish renewal.

Facing the challenges of the years ahead — the imperatives of an unfolding peace, and a life of highest quality for all who live or come to live in Israel — we pledge our continuing and expanding partnership.

May these first 50 years be the threshold to an infinite future of renewing and rebuilding life.

Now, More Than Ever... We Are One!

Irwin S. Field
National Chairman

Frank R. Lautenberg
President

Irving Bernstein
Executive Vice Chairman

Chaim Vinitzky
Director-General, Israel



MOBILIZING FUNDS FOR THE JEWISH AGENCY OVER HALF A CENTURY

Jewish Chronicle, December 24th, 1920

JEWISH NATIONAL MOVEMENT.

THE KEREN HAYESOD.

FOR THE JEWISH SETTLEMENT IN PALESTINE.

AN APPEAL TO ALL JEWRY.

The following appeal has been issued by the Head Office of the Keren Hayesod, 75, Great Russell Street, W.C.:-

TO THE JEWS OF THE WORLD.

The Mandate for Palestine, which is at once a pledge and a challenge to the Jewish people, is about to become a part of the Law of Nations.

The moment has arrived for the concentration of Jewish effort on the upbuilding of the Jewish National Home.

The lofty enterprise to which Jewry stands committed in the sight of the world, demands the active co-operation of Jews of all classes and opinions, whose common obligation it has now become.

If the reconstruction of Palestine is to be effectively undertaken, financial resources on the amplest scale will be required.

For the purpose of providing these resources, the Keren Hayesod (Foundation Fund) has now been formally constituted.

BUILD THE JEWISH COMMONWEALTH

The purpose of the Keren Hayesod is to bring about the settlement of Palestine by Jews on an orderly plan and in steadily increasing numbers, to enable immigration to begin without delay, and to provide for the economic development of the country to the advantage of its Jewish and its non-Jewish inhabitants alike.

This purpose is attainable. Room can be found in Palestine for a vastly increased population. Thousands are already waiting on the threshold. Let but productive employment be provided for them and they can enter.

There is land to be bought and prepared, there are roads and railways, harbours and bridges to be built, there are hills to be afforested, there are marshes to be drained, there is fertile soil to be irrigated, there is latent water-power to be turned to account, there are towns to be laid out, there are crafts and industries to be developed. Side by side with these undertakings, adequate provision for the social welfare of the population, for public health, and above all, for education.

All these activities are comprised in the programme of the Keren Hayesod. Its organisation is flexible, and can be readily adapted to every variety of undertaking. It will at once encourage private initiative—subject always to the test of social justice and public utility—and foster co-operative effort in all its many-sided applications.

This is an common moment. For twenty centuries it has been patiently awaited: it will not recur in our life-time nor in that of our children's children. Nor is this such an appeal as is daily made to Jewish philanthropy. It marks the beginning of a concerted effort designed to elicit from the entire Jewish people such a response as will vindicate the honour of the Jewish name.

No casual charity will suffice. The exceptional effort which is called for to-day must take the form of self-taxation, steady, persistent, systematic, inspired by the noble Jewish tradition of the Tithe. A heavy load of taxation is to-day being imposed on all the peoples of the world in the name of national reconstruction. There is no Jewish State; the appeal that is about to be made is to the Jewish conscience and is fortified by no power of compulsion; but no Jew worthy of his name will, at this solemn moment, take the responsibility of shattering himself behind the powerlessness of his people.

The gates of Palestine are no longer hurled from within. The key is in the hands of the Jewish people. It is for Jewry to decide whether they are, to its lasting dishonour, to remain unopened, or whether they are to welcome in the multitudes that are expectantly awaiting the hour of redemption.

ROTHSCHILD. ALFRED MOND. JOSEPH COWEN. REDLIFFE N. SALAMAN. CH. WEIZMANN. N. SOKOLOV. B. FEIWEI. V. JABOTINSKY. L. NAIDITCH. H. ZLATOPOLSKY.

“... The exceptional effort which is called for to-day must take the form of self-taxation, steady, persistent, systematic ...”

As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of The Jewish Agency, the World Family of the United Israel Appeal-Keren Hayesod re-affirms its commitment to the historic task of Zionism and the State of Israel.

Dr. Avraham Avi-Hai
World Chairman



המגבית המאוחדת לישראל - קרן היסוד
United Israel Appeal-Keren Hayesod

AN EVOLVING PARTNERSHIP

Jewish Agency Chairman Arye Leon Dulzin talks about developments in the Agency and in the Jewish people with *Jerusalem Post* Political Correspondent MARK SEGAL.

ARYE LOUIS DULZIN, a consummate practitioner of the political art, has achieved the non-partisan status of which most of his colleagues only dream. Indeed, it has been said of late that Dulzin, in his post as chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executive, is in a more secure position than his Likud colleague, Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

Aside from Dulzin's relaxed good manners and expansive warmth — products of his Russian background and Mexican upbringing — he has a number of substantial reasons for this security in the post he has held for only a year.

There's the fact that he's the only Agency chairman ever to be elected unanimously — with backing from the Likud and Begin, the Labour Zionists and Yigal Alon, and the Mizrahi and Dr. Yosef Burg. And in his "cabinet," the Executive, he has achieved the walk-to-wall, "national unity" coalition which has eluded Begin.

But perhaps most of all, Dulzin has a history of nonpartisanship. After all, back in 1959 when the Liberals and their Horut Gahal partners were very much in the minority none other than Premier Levi Eshkol insisted that Dulzin take over the Agency treasurer's job, because he was the best man for the job. Today there is a similar situation at the Agency Treasury, where Akiva Lewinsky, a Labour man, now holds forth, with a banker's competence.

SINCE coming on ally in the early 1960s, Arye Dulzin has spent most of his time as a Zionist Organisation man — apart from a short spell in the Eshkol-Meir National Unity government as a minister-without-portfolio.

From 1956 to the early 60s he ran the economic department, and was then chosen co-chairman of the Aliya department. For long periods he was asked to fill in as acting chairman, while Labour deliberated over who should per-



manently fill the job. He proved popular with the Israeli public and with the Diaspora communities, and it was largely due to then Premier Rabin's intervention that Yosef Almog outmaneuvered him for the top job in 1976.

Born in Minsk 65 years ago, he was raised in a traditional home. His late father was a Hasid of the Habad movement and their home was infused with a warm Jewish atmosphere. But the Russian Revolution enveloped them, and for a short time attracted the young Leon. He envisaged the Ebrodijan autonomy schemes and the plan for Jewish resettlement in the Crimea as a prelude to a brave new world for Jews.

When he was 15, the family emigrated to Mexico. There, he recalls, "I discovered that everything was open to Jews, except the ability to simply admit their Jewish identity. It upset me and I began to search for something which would help me

find myself, both as an individual and as a Jew. I found it in the Zionist youth movement. I resolved to reject the dualism of Diaspora Jewish life and all of a sudden found myself relieved of the burden of concealed Jewishness. I had become an emancipated Jew, freed from any Galut complex, and proud of my identity. That is the kind of feeling so sabra could have felt."

Arye Dulzin belongs to the mainstream of the Zionist movement. He dislikes irrationalities and mystical overtones. His positivist philosophy on life embraces his Zionist credo.

He speaks of contemporary Jewry in beroc terms. How else, he asks, can one describe a people which suffered so much, lost one-third of its members in the Holocaust, but recovered to flourish in its own sovereign state. Others would have withered away, yet Jewry is undergoing redemptive processes, with a

period of Jewish creativity under way despite alarms and fears so lavishly expounded by this most argumentative of peoples. For him, Zionism's proffered solution of the Jewish problem has been vindicated, after its analysis of what was to be expected was so tragically confirmed.

Dulzin is no maximalist. He is fully aware that Israel's future survival will be determined within its borders, and not outside them. Peace has come as a result of our strength — the product of toil and perseverance.

Unlike some Likud and NRP leaders, he does not regard peace as a threat, but rather as a tremendous opportunity for building up our society. He says: "The real security of Israel and its future will neither be determined nor ensured by even the best of frontiers. Our tactical and strategic depth is a function of the number of Jews who will be in Israel, and will live creative and productive

lives here. Our very safety will be determined by the quality of Jewish life in the State of Israel.

IT IS WITH such thoughts in mind that he hails the durable partnership between Israel and the Diaspora communities, embodied in the Jewish Agency. He considers it a great privilege to be at the helm of the Agency on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. And it is indeed an honour to preside over the Agency half a century after Weizmann brought it into being at a historic assembly in the Zurich Ton Hall.

Weizmann formed the Agency back in 1929 as a partnership between WZO and some of the most prominent "non-Zionist" Jews of the day, he recalls, noting that the great Zionist leader wished thereby to ensure that every Jew could have the opportunity of sharing in the upbuilding of the Jewish national home.

The "non-Zionist" Jews at the historic assembly included such illustrious names as Leon Blum, Albert Einstein, Sholem Aleichem, Louis Marshall, Lord Melech and Jacob Schiff. Came the Wall Street Crash that very year, and some of them disappeared from the scene. Some died; others Blum were more interested in a broader world; and there were those who lost faith in the Zionist vision. "You see, they spoke for constituency, they represented themselves. Just a few years after it was launched the Agency's operation had to shouldered by the Zionist partner," Dulzin pointed out.

The Jewish Agency reconstituted eight years ago remains very much a partnership but a rather different one from that of 1929. The Agency chairman points out that the distinction between Zionist and non-Zionist has become so blurred, that one has to look for a toothpick for differentiation. Many of its representatives, he notes, had roached the assembly either through the WZO or through fund-raising body. And it

has been a long time since the Agency's establishment was that the entire Jewish people has become united in its overriding concern for Israel, Dulzin notes. He recalls how his fellow Zionists gave vent to fears during the negotiations preceding the Agency's reconstitution that this sharing of responsibility might undermine their *raison d'être*.

LOOKING BACK over the past eight years, Dulzin notes that's not how things have turned out. Aliya, settlement, Jewish education have been on the Agency's Assembly's agenda, and have become the tasks of the entire Jewish people, irrespective of affiliation. Dulzin points out that the central fund-raising campaigns were no longer based on philanthropy but on ideology — the importance of Israel and Jewish survival.

He explained that Max Fisher and the late Arye Louis Pincus, the two architects of the augmented Agency, chose the campaign bodies as the "non-Zionist" partner, because they had the very continuity of representation and the broadest base in every community. Their overwhelming response to the threat to Israel's existence in 1967, and the instinctive turning of the awakened Jewish masses to these organizations, demonstrated that they were the logical partner. It was not only the unprecedented amounts of money that poured in, but also the overwhelming level of spontaneity, that proved this point. For Dulzin, now chairman,

and so long treasurer, "the campaign is today the means of expressing the highest ideals and aspirations of Jewish life. Giving money is not a gesture of altruism but an act of personal identification with the Jewish people and Israel. Those who work for the campaign demonstrate their deep



involvement in Jewish life at home and their concern for Israel. Thus the campaign, whether the UJA in the U.S. or the various drives under the Keren Hayesod umbrella in 60 countries, has become the most effective two-way conduit for Israel-Diaspora relations.

He wants delegates to take back the burning issue of aliya to their local communities. Yet he is fully aware of the sorry fact that during 1976 over 100,000 Jews were on the move, and most of them opted for other countries. The drop-out rate has reached almost 70 per cent among Jews leaving the USSR.

The delegates would be asked to pursue the Agency's effort to make up for the social deficiencies of the past through Project Renewal, which is aimed at helping the 10 per cent of Israeli Jews not properly integrated into Israeli society. Dulzin regarded these shortcomings as a result of the mad rush to do everything at once during the early years of statehood.

PROJECT Renewal stands outside the usual Agency budgeting framework. He speaks of it as an innovation, in that it directly involves communities abroad in rehabilitating neighbourhoods here. But, he says, the experiences of the past year point up the need for improvement in organizational methods for working in conjunction with the government and local authorities, as well as with the people directly affected. The Assembly will be advised that aliya figures are on the rise, up from 20,000 per year during 1975, 1976 and 1977 to 29,000 in 1978, with a projection of 35,000 for this year.

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Previously the delegates would take up this very fundamental issue, and probably question the influence of inadequate absorption machinery and resources on potential immigrants' final decisions.

The Assembly will also focus on Youth Aliya's changing role: initially a rescue operation, then an absorption channel, it is today a special educational framework aimed at disadvantaged youth.

The emphasis in the Agency's settlement work in the immediate year will be on the Negav and Galilee. "Not having done in the past what should have been done in these two key areas, we are confronted today with the job of making a virtue out of necessity," the Agency chairman declares. He asked out loud: "Do these two regions compete or interrelate? How can we divide our strained resources?" noting that if in the past the call of Ben-Gurion to settle the Negev evoked a minimal response, today in the wake of the peace treaty, there was little choice but to develop it. The Galilee's unfavourable demographic balance, with 50 per cent Arabs, was now tipping dangerously away from a Jewish majority in that sensitive region, he added.

Last but not least, the Assembly has to take up the cause of Jewish education throughout the world. Israel must utilize its resources in the drive to save Jewish children from being lost to their people. This has to be done in conjunction with the local communities who must see whether resources are deployed in the most effective manner. □

A new Zionism

Fifty years after the founding of the Jewish Agency, 'all Jews hold membership' in the movement of Zionism, writes MAX FISHER, chairman of the Board of Governors of the Jewish Agency.

As THE Jewish Agency begins its Jubilee Anniversary, we rededicate ourselves through deed and aspiration, planting the seeds of renewal for the Jewish People.

For at this juncture in time, with the promise of peace challenging all of Israel, the Jewish people have decided to go back and finish the task of immigrant absorption.

Project Renewal symbolizes this new determination. I think that says a lot about us, about our Zionist legacy, and the ultimate values and objectives of the people of Israel.

For the truth of the matter is, that while there may be differences among us, today we are distinguished more for what unites us, than what divides us.

TODAY, 50 years after Chaim Weizmann dreamed of creating one Jewish Agency that would enlist all of world Jewry for helping to establish a Jewish homeland, we are all Zionists.

It is a new Zionism of the heart, of the mind, and of the deed. It is a new Zionism in which all Jews hold membership — whether one lives in New York, London or Jerusalem.

This new Zionism is rooted in appreciation of what this generation has accomplished here in Israel, for what the World Zionist Organization has achieved, and for what we have all accomplished together, working through the reconstituted Jewish Agency.

It is a new Zionism that will shape a new outlook for the Jewish Agency, as it proudly begins its next 50 years of Jewish fulfillment. It will be a period of Jewish destiny shaped by a Zionism that affirms that no Jew can separate himself from our noble adventure. □



Max Fisher

Diyur Le'oleh Vetaasiot Pardessia B.M.

congratulates the Jewish Agency on its Jubilee

Pioneers in settlement,
Immigration, Absorption
and Aliyat Hano'ar Education

The Diyur Le'oleh company was founded in 1953. The Company serves the Jewish Agency by the erection of housing and the provision of auxiliary industrial facilities for building. During the mass immigration of the fifties, Diyur Le'oleh built *maabarot*. Later, the Company dismantled the *maabarot*, and built additional rooms for Amidar and Amigur, for occupation by new immigrants.

Today, Diyur Le'oleh builds hostels and housing for new immigrants.

Jewish Agency



JEWISH AGENCY CHAIRMEN 1929-1979

Zalman Shazar

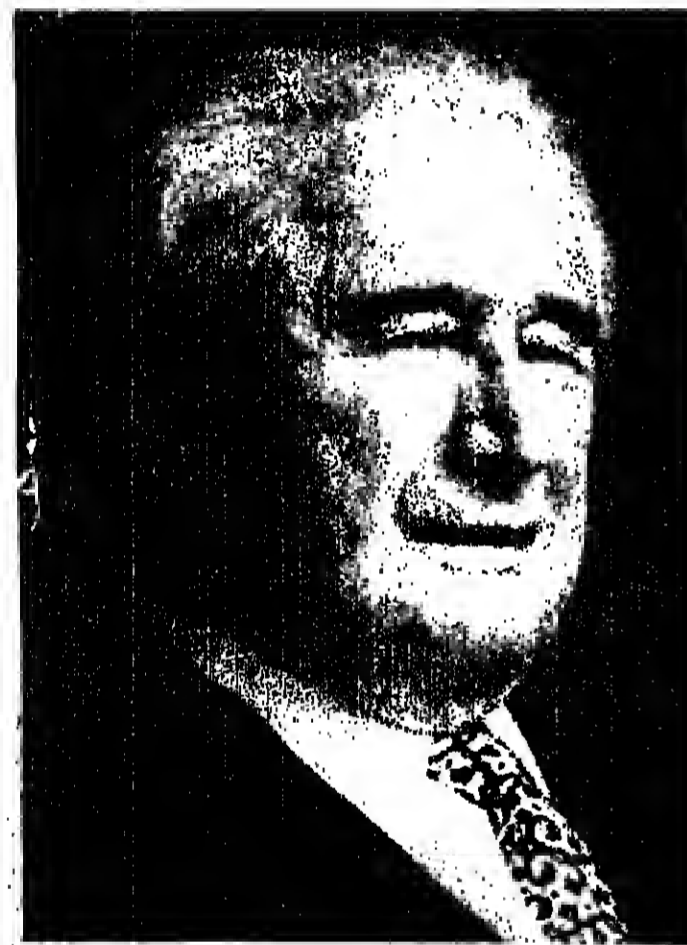
Arthur Ruppin



JEWISH AGENCY CHAIRMEN 1929-1979

Arye L. Dulzin

Moshe Sharett



David Ben-Gurion



Nahum Goldmann

Beri Locker



Aryeh Louis Pincus

Yosef Almogi

Pinhas Sapir



Presidents of the Jewish Agency



Dr. Chaim Weizmann



Nahum Sokolow



Dr. Nahum Goldmann

Members of the Jewish Agency Executive

- Arye L. Dulzin
- Max M. Fisher
- Akiva Lewinsky
- Dr. Avraham Avi-hai

- Matityahu Drobles
- Melvin Dubinsky
- Irwin Field
- Jerold C. Hoffberger
- Raphael Kotolowitz

- Frank Lautenberg
- Michael M. Sacher
- Yosef Shapira
- Prof. Ra'anana Weitz

HEREN KAYEMETH LEISRAEL

and extends greetings to the Jubilee Assembly

We are partners in Israel's progress. So it was in the past,

So it shall be in the future.

The present Five-Year-Plan of JNF includes land development of 125,000 dunams of farming land, site development for 15,000 farming units, 7,500 living units, 50,000 dunams of agricultural land, 2,000 kilometres of new roads, 250,000 dunams of grazing land and 150,000 dunams of new forests.

130 million trees have been planted to date. During the past five years alone, 30,000 dunams were covered with forests, providing an ecological balance to urban living and opening for the public large recreation centres such as the Bicentennial Park, Canada Park and Jordan Park.

From the Lebanese border in the North to the Negev in the South, at hundreds of places all over the country, the JNF has been working, side by side with the Jewish Agency, restoring the ancient soil to new life.

Our sights are set on the future.
Our motto: Down to Earth!



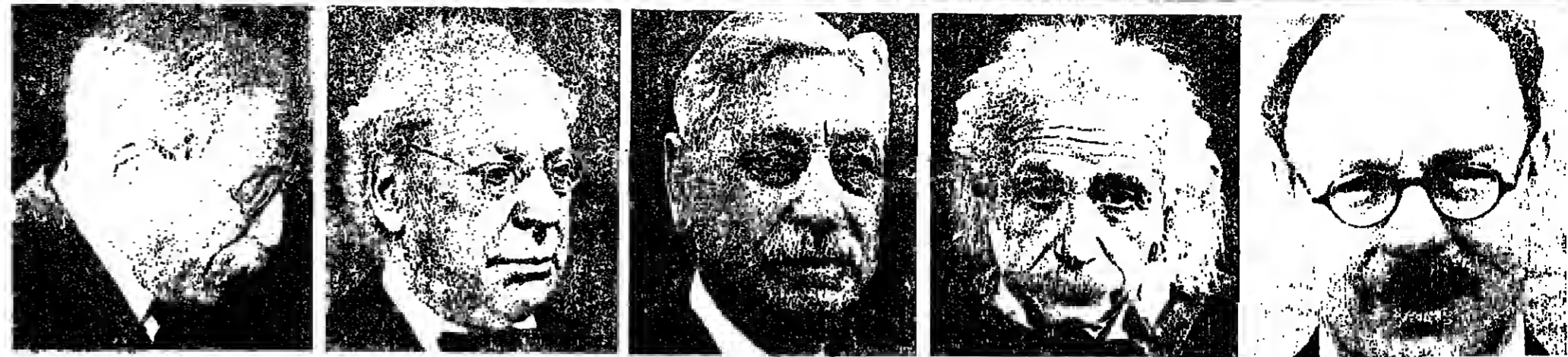
JNF bulldozers in the Negev



Scene in Yotfata in the Arava



Land reclamation work in Galilee



Leon Blum

Louis Marshall

Sholem Asch

Albert Einstein

Lord Melchett

MEMORIES OF ZURICH

AHARON ALPERIN presents some personal recollections of the 16th Zionist Congress in 1929.

"IN THAT case, Dr. Weismann, this is the last Zionist Congress!" This interjection from the floor, as far as I recall, came from Yitzhak Gruenbaum, at the 16th Zionist Congress in Zurich, in August 1929, when Dr. Chaim Weismann, president of the World Zionist Organisation, made his summing-up speech following a lengthy and stormy debate on the draft constitution of the Jewish Agency.

Yitzhak Gruenbaum had erred. Many of the delegates were troubled by the thought that the establishment of the Jewish Agency on a parity basis with the non-Zionists would entail a weakening and a watering down of Zionism. But no one went as far as Gruenbaum.

In the heat of the debate, Gruenbaum apparently lost sight of the fact that the Zionist Movement was far too strong to be undermined ideologically through organizational changes in the general Jewish movement for Eretz Yisrael. On the contrary, it would succeed in influencing the new partners and attract them to Zionist thought.

WHEN WE convened in the afternoon of August 11, 1929 at the Tonhalle in Zurich for the opening session of the Jewish Agency, all doubts had vanished. In the programmatic addresses on that festive occasion, the greatest and the most impressive in Jewish history also down to the present day, there were no two opinions — Zionist and non-Zionist. All spoke the same language: "For Zion's sake, I shall not be silent!" All expressed their fervent and deep belief in the rebuilding of Eretz Yisrael for the Jewish people.

Those who participated at this conference — and I had the privilege of being among them — will always recall that historical occasion. The most respected and the most famous leaders of the Jewish people at that period had gathered for the lofty purpose of building Eretz Yisrael as the old-new homeland of the Jewish people.

First and foremost among them was Albert Einstein, to whom Leon Blum, then Prime Minister of France, bowed in reverence and described him as the greatest Jew of our time. Einstein, the non-Zionist from the organisational point of view, then delivered the most Zionist of all speeches at the opening session, a speech that is regarded down to the present day as a classic creation in Zionist history.

"We all feel," Einstein began, "that this is a great day for all of us. Allow me to say how I see and feel the greatness of this day. The Jewish tragedy of our age lies in the fact that the Jewish people is scattered and splintered. The individual Jew nowadays is isolated as such and suffers as a result of his isolation. This suffering has become a tragedy. How is it possible to find a solution for this tragic situation other than by establishing a home of our own? The man who realized that with unusual clarity was Theodor Herzl."

He continued: "What Herzl saw was implicitly in itself, yet no one had realized it before him. Only a small group of people had concentrated around him. He realized that the Jewish people alone is capable of creating the movement that would break through that individual isolation. With the healthy instinct of a political genius, Herzl felt that that could be achieved through the rebuilding of Eretz Yisrael. Almost all opposed Herzl, in the fear that the idea might prove injurious to their status in the countries of their domicile — possibly might lead to a complete loss of status. Herzl, who knew that that was not the case, entered upon that onerous task which proved to be impossible from the political point of view, with a small group of faithful followers. Nowadays we have come to realize that Herzl had set them on the road to redemption. We must recognize that with all our hearts and express our deep admiration of his memory."

Einstein concluded his speech with an expression of appreciation to Dr. Weismann for his share in the difficult task that Herzl had commenced: "We must not lose sight of the fact that the rebuilding of Eretz Yisrael is an important and onerous obligation for all Jews, and that this task also implies a great gift to us, and for that we must be indebted not only to the two great leaders — Herzl and Weismann — but also to that courageous and enthusiastic minority that calls itself Zionist. We, the others, owe these people our national solidarity, and I believe that these people have the moral right to exert the strongest influence on the work that we who are gathered here, wish to do."

DURING EINSTEIN'S speech, there was an incident which became imprinted on the memory of all those who were present. The people who were responsible for the technical organization of the event had forgotten to hang up

Herzl's portrait on the platform of the Tonhalle. It is unlikely that they had gone out of their way so as not to hurt the susceptibilities of the non-Zionist partners.

At any event, when we entered the hall and fell to see Herzl's deep and coal-black eyes peering down at us, as we had always been accustomed to see at Zionist Congresses, we were deeply hurt by the fact. Albert Einstein sensed that feeling and at a most impressive moment in his speech, turned round to the wall and thundered out in his strong and ringing voice: "Where is Herzl?" We all felt as if a heavy stone had rolled from our hearts. Albert Einstein had given expression to what we all wanted to shout. Never before had Einstein gained such sincere and enthusiastic appreciation and appraisal as he had at that moment. Deep in the recesses of my memory of that historical session, is the appearance of Sholem Asch, the great Yiddish writer. That was his first appearance at a world convention for Eretz Yisrael, initiated by the Zionists.

At the very outset of his address, he left a deep impression by his noble gesture when he said: "First of all, one must mention today the name of a man who is not with us — our national poet Chaim Nahman Bialik." For personal reasons, Bialik was unable to attend.

TURNING to Dr. Weismann, Asch said: "In a difficult moment, Mr. President, you turned to the Jewish masses scattered in every corner of the world, and asked: 'Jewish people, where art thou?' I believe that this convention has given you the answer. We are here! All those whom that call of yours has not yet reached, are here today. But not only we, the Jewish people of the present generation, are gathered in this hall, but also the Jewish people of all generations. The great suffering in Jewish history hovers over us today and demands a solution to our tragic situation. The emergence of Eretz Yisrael is a ray of light on this long and bloody road that we have traversed, and provides us with reason and significance for our suffering."

Asch said: "Mentioning that the miracle of unification of the whole Jewish people can be brought about only through the strength and influence of Eretz Yisrael, Asch said that he was privileged on that historical occasion to be the spokesman of the poor and oppressed Jewish masses in Poland and in other countries. 'If for

others Eretz Yisrael may perhaps be a spiritual luxury, for the Jews of Poland it is our Homeland of sheer necessity. The problem facing us is not only the upbuilding of Eretz Yisrael but the upbuilding of the Jewish people through Eretz Yisrael." He added: "Eretz Yisrael must be the roof under which the Jewish masses will find a home."

THE APPEARANCE of Leon Blum, the socialist leader and loyal Jew, was the third impressive event at the opening session. When I heard him, I felt convinced — and I believe so to the present day — that leftists of all factions, both old and "new," as they are referred to today, should read that speech. They might possibly pale at their dis-honourable, sometimes even shameful, attitude to the idea of Zionist liberation.

"Many here may be surprised to see a man the whole of whose public activity and life's work has been dedicated to the idea and objectives of International Socialism," Blum began. He continued: "A man, as my sense of integrity bids me to announce, who has never denied his origin or his religion, and who makes a public avowal of them on all occasions and in all struggles."

In the course of his speech, he said: "International Socialism seeks to preserve the originality of all peoples and the integrity of all languages, cultures and races, and endeavours to create a harmony between them, to embrace all the lofty ideas of life. By historical miracle it has happened that the Jewish National Home in Palestine — the homeland intended for the absorption of the suffering and oppressed Jews and of the Jews yearning to return to their Fatherland, is once again being rebuilt." Declaring his belief in the justice of the Zionist idea, Leon Blum announced his credo: "I once described the Jewish people as the greatest victims of history, but throughout its dispersion and throughout the long generations of its oppression, its spirit and its feelings as a people have never been impaired." He pointed to the special importance attaching to the cooperation of the world Socialist movement and the Labour movement in Palestine and said that Palestine may serve as a wonderful laboratory for all the reforms that mark the process of the economic revolution in the world. "I believe," Leon Blum concluded, "that all the conditions have been secured for our work in Palestine." The socialist leader

called upon the Jewish Agency to continue its efforts to attract the masses for the work of upbuilding in the country. "The work of reconstruction that is being carried out in Palestine deserves the admiration not only of Jewry but of humanity as a whole."

THE GREATEST surprise was sprung upon us by the well-known "Non-Zionist", who demanded that they should not be called by that name. Their foremost spokesmen were the leaders of American Jewry at the time — Louis Marshall and Felix Warburg, who were signatories together with Weismann to the agreement for the formation of the Jewish Agency, and the representative of German Jewry — Oscar Wasserman, the banker. We listened attentively to their statements, and apart from several remarks made by Louis Marshall, we Zionists could whole-heartedly subscribe to them. Marshall appeared as the authentic representative of American Jewry, the principal partner in the Jewish Agency, and assured the gathering that the Jews of America were not only "Jews with money bags."

"We stand shoulder to shoulder with the Zionists. We will be guided by one ideal in our common duty and goal. We have not so far become affiliated with you for reasons that cannot be gone into here. But now we are united with you, under the leadership of Dr. Weismann, who understands the problems and understands the American people."

The remark in his speech which must have failed to please the Zionists, was the statement: "After all, this time for dreams is over. True we are in need of ideals, but we have reached the point when we must start to go out to work."

Warburg spoke on a much warmer note: "We will be united. I have always known that Jews of all streams and factions are capable of setting their differences aside and of working together. I am convinced that this will be the case also in the Jewish Agency. The Constitution of the Jewish Agency has been so drawn up as to enable all of us to work for Palestine. I feel very happy today. This is the happiest birthday that I have ever had, and I assure you I will do everything in my power for the success of our common goal."

Wasserman's speech was the last he made at an important world convention as the representative of American Jewry.

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 12)
 tative of German Jewry; the rise of the Nazis out the Holocaust were less than a decade away. Already his first sentences were characteristic: "On behalf of the non-Zionist German delegates, I have the honour heartily to greet this convention of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, which sorvov as proof of Jewish unity. Not all the Jews of Germany as yet stand behind our German delegates, but the majority of them do. It is our duty to convince those who still stand aloof of the greatness of our objectives and of the need of harmonious cooperation between us."
 Another important speaker, who was not classified as belonging to either side, was Sir Herbert Samuel, the first High Commissioner of Palestine. He expressed appreciation to the World Zionist Organisation for its enterprise of upbuilding in Palestine and concluded by saying that "It is most important that the whole of Jewry should participate in the re-building of the Holy Land."

Agency had just concluded the Zionist Congress, at which the problem created by the partnership with the non-Zionists was discussed in depth, at times in a stormy atmosphere. Some of the delegates, particularly the Revisionist Zionists headed by Vladimir Jabotinsky, refused to abide by the resolution to set up the Jewish Agency, which was passed by an overwhelming majority, and did not enter the Agency.
 Dr. Chaim Weizmann, Nahum Sokolow, Menahem Ussishkin, Lord Melchett (at that time president of the British Zionist Federation), Dr. Kurt Blumenfeld (on behalf of the Zionists in Germany) — I am not mentioning all the speakers — warmly greeted the non-Zionists and at once created the friendly atmosphere that was needed for unity.
 Chaim Arlosoroff and David Ben-Gurion voiced the agreement of the Labour Movement in Palestine to the founding of the Jewish Agency, stressing their demand for the safeguarding of the principle of Jewish labour in the upbuilding of the Jewish

Homeland. In a few brief words, Ben-Gurion clearly formulated the Zionist objective in Eretz Yisrael: "Our first pioneers came to Palestine 50 years ago, and we, the Jewish labourers, came 25 years ago, not as immigrants aiming at making a career for ourselves. We came imbued with a sense of the will and the historical mission of the Jewish people to achieve a rebirth from the economic, social and political points of view, the desire to attain an independent Jewish State in our Homeland. We know that this can be achieved only by means of cooperation with the whole of the Jewish people." Pointing out that the workers in Eretz Yisrael do not shy from cooperation with those described as "the Jews of Finance," Ben-Gurion said: "But Jews who have nothing apart from money are not Jews."
 Dr. Nahum Goldmann belonged to a special category. He appeared on behalf of the Radical Zionist faction (to which Yitzhak Gruenbaum also belonged). Down to the last moment, this faction vehemently opposed the Platform of the Jewish Agency and voted

against its constitution. But once the resolution for the establishment of the Jewish Agency was passed by a decisive majority, the group declared that it, too, would participate.
 After making a declaration to that effect, Dr. Goldmann proposed that the Jewish Agency be transformed into a popular movement on democratic foundations. "We hope that the day will come when we shall no longer be speaking about a 'fifty-fifty' basis for the composition of the Jewish Agency, but that the Jews of all lands will elect their representatives to this great movement so as to upbuild Eretz Yisrael on united democratic lines." Goldmann continued: "We must all be entitled to represent our ideologies, and so we declare that we shall continue to struggle for the idea of Jewish national revival in all countries and for a sovereign Jewish State in Palestine, which we term the Jewish State of Herzl, and for a better social order in Eretz Yisrael."
 WHEN ALL the speeches and declarations, including also

greetings from two rabbis — Rabbi Ezekiel Lifshitz of Poland and Rabbi Benzion Meir Hai Uziel of Eretz Yisrael — had been made, the last part of the programme of the founding conference of the Jewish Agency commenced. It was the submission of reports by the various committees and the passing of resolutions. This part passed without marked discussion or dissent.
 In the resolutions concerning the work of the Jewish Agency, the balance and harmony between the work of national upbuilding in Eretz Yisrael and private initiative, between the planned financial instrument and the national funds, between the kibbutzim and the other forms of settlement, was preserved.
 The announcement was made that Warburg and Melchett each contributed the sum of \$500,000, for the establishment of the financial body for the upbuilding work in Palestine. The budget was approved for the activities of the Jewish Agency during its first year. It was also reported that the founding conference had the participation of 105 Zionists and 104 "non-Zionists."
 In an atmosphere of general enthusiasm, Baron Edmond de Rothschild, the "well-known benefactor" and "Father of the Yishuv" was elected honorary president of the Jewish Agency. A telegram of warm greetings was despatched at once to the Baron in Paris.
 Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, was elected president of the Jewish Agency; Louis Marshall and Lord Melchett were elected presidents of the council, while Felix Warburg was elected Administrative Council president.
 The signing of the Foundation Scroll of the Jewish Agency by Weizmann and Nahum Sokolow on behalf of the World Zionist Organization, and a large group of prominent keyworkers, headed by Louis Marshall and Felix Warburg, on behalf of the non-Zionists was a moving and unforgettable scene.
 The historic founding conference which was opened by Dr. Weizmann, was closed after three days of deliberations by Louis Marshall, and ended in the singing of *Hatikva* and in an atmosphere which was summed up by Dr. Samuel Ditchos of London: "This has been the most wonderful day in all the 1,000 years that have gone by."
 The hopes and their realization form a chapter in themselves. Immediately after the founding assembly, a difficult period commenced, marked by tragic events (such as the death of Louis Marshall immediately after the conference and the economic recession in the United States in the 1930s).
 I remember clearly opening my report of the historical meeting to my paper (the Paris *Haaretz*, which I edited at the time), in the following words, which I wrote in a sense of implicit faith:
 "Everything that has been done and declared here today rests on foundations of mutual trust on the part of Zionists and non-Zionists alike." I believe that this was proven at the time and continues to be borne out today, 50 years later, in the deliberations and in the work of that great and important organization in Jewish history — the expanded Jewish Agency, which represents all the Jewish communities in the free world, for the upbuilding of the renewed and sovereign Homeland of the Jewish people — the State of Israel. □

THE ZIONIST half of the Jewish

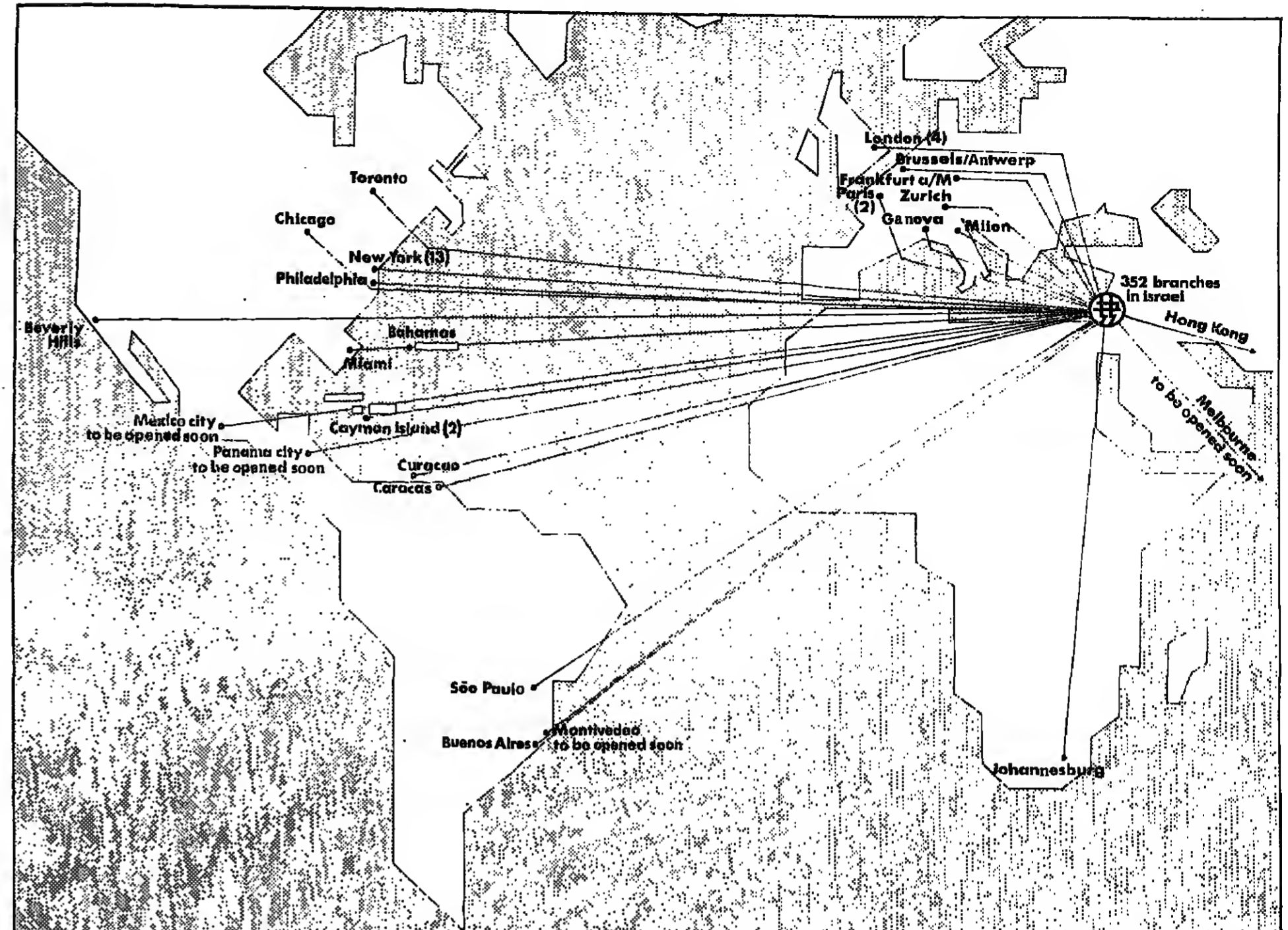
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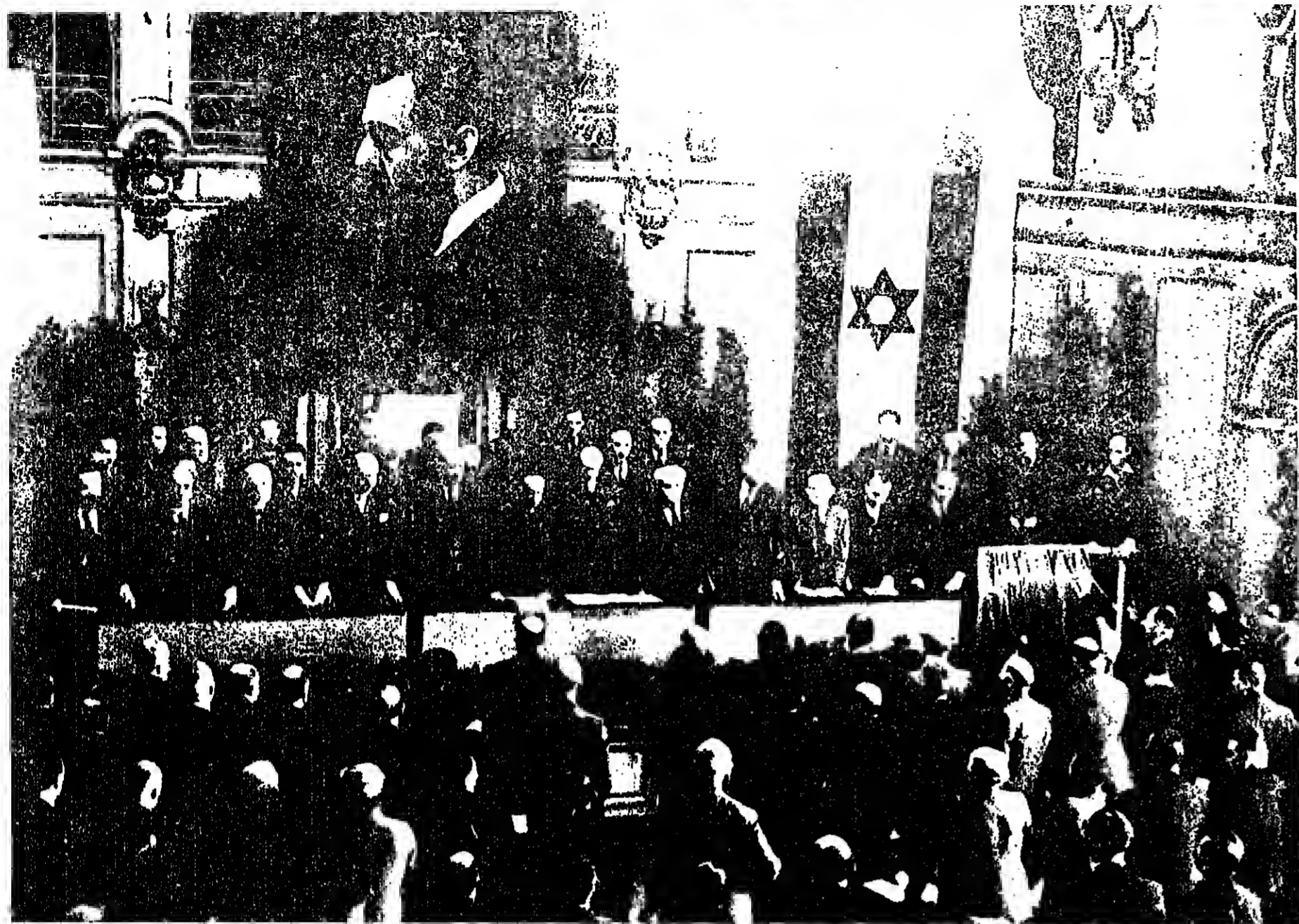
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FIFTY YEARS

Some pictorial highlights from the Jewish Agency's first half-century.

(Above) The meeting of the Jewish Agency Council, in 1970. Dr. Weizmann and Ben-Gurion can be seen in first row of podium. (Below Left) Dr. Chaim Weizmann presents Boker Torah to U.S. President Harry Truman. (Below right) Moshe Sharett and David Ben-Gurion in New York, 1947.



Youth Aliya group at Kibbutz Ein Harod in 1934.



(Above) Yosef Herta, Joseph Joseph, Moshe Sharett and David Ben-Gurion in Latrun detention camp after 'Sabbath,' 1947. (Below) Terrorist blast at Agency, 1948.



Pinhas and Pinner sign charter of Reconstituted Jewish Agency, 1970.



(Above) Yemenite immigrants sign up for visas in Aden, 1948. (Below) 'Aliya Bet' illegal immigrants stream ashore during last days of the British Mandate.



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...the group, ...
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The 62 Iranians are the latest addition to this high school, nestled in the foothills of the Carmel mountains. Established in 1968, Yemin Orde serves some 480 students, all of whom are wards of Youth Aliya. Most are Israeli, but Rifkin explained there are a few foreigners scattered here and there.

"We have a few Americans, South Africans and British, so the concept of non-Hebrew speakers was not strange. It is a matter of the newcomers adjusting to us."

IT IS EASY to spot the new arrivals walking around the village grounds. They move in self-conscious groups, not quite in concert with their surroundings. An air of hesitancy hangs on them as they speak quietly amongst themselves.

"There was never any great response to Youth Aliya in Iran," explained Rifkin. "The office in Teheran had been there for years without much activity. There was no reason; Iranian Jews, for the most part, led comfortable existences."

Activity remained laconic even after the civil unrest started fermenting. Rifkin said the Jewish Agency told him to expect 30 Iranians in September; 2 arrived. Of the 600-700 Iranian youths who have come to Israel since the trouble began, at least twice that number has gone to the U.S. and other places, according to Rifkin.

He added that those parents who could not accompany their children out of the country and did not have relatives abroad, sent them to Israel through Youth Aliya.

"It's quite difficult for some of these kids," he said. "Besides the

TEHERAN CHILDREN

LYNDA SCHUSTER visits a group of the latest Youth Aliya charges, 64 teenagers who arrived in Israel in the wake of the Khomeini revolution.

language and cultural differences, there is the matter of life style. They are basically middle-class, and used to a totally different sort of existence. They are not accustomed to rising early in the morning and working. But where else would they go? That is the beauty of Youth Aliya — to give refuge to Jewish children who have no other place."

THOSE "CULTURAL differences" pose some of the biggest obstacles to integration. For instance, boys and girls do not study together in Iran, and many of the girls were reluctant to sit in the same classroom as the boys. Another difference is religious practice. Yemin Orde is a religious youth village. Rifkin said most of the Iranians did not come from religious families, but although all had some sort of Jewish education.

According to Rifkin, the Iranian youths were not strangers to religion, but he added that most



had gone to secular schools. Some had even attended Moslem schools. He said they adjust to wearing a *kipa* because of peer pressure: everybody is doing it.

Ahmed Ba'al Hanes, the group's counsellor, thinks it is easier for boys to assimilate. "First of all, women are more restricted in Iran than here. The girls who come must adjust to an integrated society. Boys have the common denominator of sports. Everyone is accepted on the football field on the basis of his ability. Sports are a universal language. Girls don't have that sort of outlet."

The Iranians will study in separate classes until September 1, when they will join the rest of the student body. "I don't believe in overpowering people with indoctrination," said Rifkin. "I believe adjustment comes slowly. They are separated just now to give them breathing space and a greater sense of security in the

ALL ADMITTED that while Iran was a "good country," they wouldn't want to go back. Israel is their country now, and there is a willingness, however tentative, to commit themselves.

Pinina, an attractive redhead, best articulated the ambivalence. "I am not certain the girls want us here. I feel torn between two worlds: their ways of doing things are so different. But I can't go back to Teheran."

The cry "we want to be accepted" does not fall on deaf ears. Rifkin is sympathetic. "The truth is if there had not been a revolution in Iran, most of these kids would still be there, and they know it. They woke up one morning to find a different language, strange food, and unfamiliar social mores. Perhaps they don't want to be in Israel. But it is still easier for them at this school than those who are thrown into the city school system. They'll adjust here, and perhaps someday look upon this place as home." □

HAVING educated Holocaust survivors, refugees from Arab lands, orphans, the disadvantaged and children sent for limited periods by parents from the West, Youth Aliya institutions now face an important additional challenge — the children of Soviet Jewish dropouts.

Youth Aliya chairman Yosef Shapira has proposed that every child in Rome and Vienna whose parents are waiting for visas from America should be brought to Israel and educated in his dormitory institutions during the long months of waiting.

"The six months or so that they spend here could be critical in helping them to understand what the Israel is really like and in convincing their parents to come on aliya," says the chairman. A tour of 27 such youngsters earlier this year, which resulted in one Russian girl returning here immediately with her family and more expected, has proved that it can work. Shapira hopes that the

costs involved in flights and accommodations will not deter the Jewish Agency from the plan.

LIVE-AWAY institutions have proved very successful in dealing with problem youth, youngsters whose parents are not in the country and others who need a round-the-clock framework. The teachers, says Shapira, work with the children all the time and not only during formal class time. They are assigned to deal with the whole human being, and they succeed. And children whose home environments were part of the problem can escape to get a chance to grow up.

Another challenge

Yosef Shapira, chairman of Youth Aliya, explains his proposal for dealing with the children of Soviet-Jewish 'dropouts' to The Post's JUDY SIEGEL.



Shapira's programme for bringing whole classes of Western teenagers to Israel for a year at a time is progressing, although the

numbers — 300 next year — are not yet significant.

In 1980, they will come from Spain, the U.S., France, Brazil, England and other countries. And they will be taught in their native tongues.

Shapira dreams of organizing summer projects for 10,000 Western youngsters who attend low-quality Hebrew and Sunday schools abroad and need Jewish enrichment. The cost would be enormous, but it would reach large masses of the upcoming generation who are likely to drop out of Jewishness.

YOUTH ALIYA wants direct in-

volvement in Project Renewal for slum rehabilitation. Shapira notes that 90 per cent of the disadvantaged youngsters in Youth Aliya institutions come from the first 55 neighbourhoods that were selected for rehabilitation. "That shows how accurate we were in pinpointing the disadvantaged."

Since Youth Aliya has so much experience in the field, it will ask for funds to help more children study in its institutions and to modernise existing schools, libraries and other facilities.

The former head of World B'nai B'rith and still a leader of Mirahel-Hapoel Hamizrak, Shapira is searching desperately for a way to interest traditional Jews who are turned off by the Zionist establishment to come on aliya.

Perhaps we need a movement with a new name and a different way of operating, he says. "And I'm sure that Mirahel can be the vanguard of this aliya movement." □

Small and struggling

The Post's MARY HIRSCHFELD meets settlers at Ya'ad, a young industrial village in the Western Galilee's Segev bloc.

SMALL is beautiful — but not when you're too small to do well. That is the bitter complaint of the 28 young families living in Ya'ad, the first of the planned industrial villages to be set up in central Galilee. Promises of help to turn their moshav into a thriving 150-family community have been repudiated by the government, who told them that their living "standards (are) too high and incompatible with the Jewish Agency's original plans for the area."

"I don't know what they mean," moshav secretary Danny Shilo told *The Jerusalem Post*. "We

have a cooperative settlement — a *moshav shitufi* — just like the others in the country. We work the land, too, divide profits among all members and live a standard communal life, without the riches of many kibbutzim. Now if we like our houses clean, and want new members to be close to us in heart and mind, I think this should stand for us — not against us."

"It all comes down to the familiar politics of neglecting the Galilee. Everybody talks a lot about populating Judea, Samaria and whatnot, but the assumption that the Galilee is already in our

pockets, and there is no need to worry about it. They forget that the great majority of Israeli Arabs live in the area and they do not feel friendlier towards Jews than the Arabs in the Gaza Strip. In central Galilee alone, they outnumber Jews 10 to 1. Ya'ad is surrounded by Arab villages and there are hardly any Jewish settlements in the whole Segev area."

CREATING "industrial villages" was the Jewish Agency's formula for populating the Galilee. As arable land is hard to find, and not

many university graduates are willing to consider a life in agriculture, industry-based settlements were thought to be much more appealing. Ya'ad was the first such settlement to be established, and four more are to be created.

"Before getting our permanent houses," Shilo told *The Post*, "we lived for years in campers in the nearby Nevo forest. Now another group — mostly of Defense Ministry engineers — has settled there. These people have been living in the same trailers for a long time. The story hasn't changed; permanent housing is always six months away for them. It was last July, then December, now August. They still don't know when."

YA'AD lies two miles uphill from the forest, 200 metres above sea level. Its 30 freshly painted houses all look pretty much the same.

There are facilities for tennis and basketball, as well as a small village store and the usual communal buildings — a club, for weekly meetings and bi-weekly movie shows, offices and two kindergartens.

The number of children — 48 — is disproportionately high for a settlement of this size. The oldest is five, only eight are girls.

"Unlike many kibbutzim and other settlements," says Shilo, who at 34 is one of the oldest people of Ya'ad, "almost all of our members work right here. They don't need to go to the nearest big town for a job. We have a small electronics factory, manufacturing control instruments; a computer department, which makes programmes for several important firms in the north; an architect's office, specializing in the designing of factories and warehouses. And finally, we could not do without some farming, to lend the rural touch. We have a one-dunam greenhouse for carnations and also 80 dunams which we hope soon to turn into an avocado plantation."

THE PICTURE is not as bright as it might seem. Ya'ad settlers were caught in a trap of sorts — after establishing four successful branches of activity, all the promised help did not materialize. The members were left alone to handle the wide infrastructure they had created, and they complain that life has been hard for them.

"We didn't think it would be like that," said Shilo. "As business grows, we must have enough hands to cope with it. But we can-



surrounded by a million strangers."

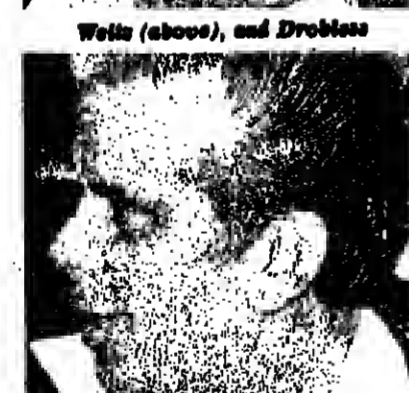
Numerous families have tried to join Ya'ad since it was set up five years ago. One of the settlers said they stopped counting after the first hundred. Twenty were admitted, and after a one-year trial period, excepted by the other members. There have hardly been any drop-outs. "One family left some months ago," said Shilo, "but they have just returned. There is another one leaving now, they say for good. They are probably going to be the first ones to do so."

As for the nine computer graduates from the Technion who first thought of settling somewhere in the Galilee and talked some friends into joining them in what everybody else considered "a crazy adventure," they are still alive and well in Ya'ad, working to make their dream a stronger and more effective reality. □

Experienced expert

Mattatya Drobless and Dr. Ra'anana Weitz hold different political points of view. But the two

co-heads of the Jewish Agency Settlement Department, share a rich store of experience in settlement itself, observes *The Post's* JOSH GRESSEL.



Weitz (above), and Drobless

PROF. RA'ANANA Weitz is a fascinating man. He has a success story to tell, and he is proud to relate it. He has a dream to unfold, to the rest of the world.

What Prof. Weitz, co-chairman of the Jewish Agency's settlement department, unabashedly calls "the most significant success story of Israel" is the development of its 800 rural settlements, which are responsible for what he terms "human transformation." What he means is that Israel has taken impoverished immigrants from all over the world, poured them into a radically new type of melting pot — the kibbutz and moshav — and successfully produced a priceless alloy the area hasn't seen for 2,000 years — the Jewish farmer.

Prof. Weitz's dream goes beyond the scope of caring for underdeveloped immigrants in the underdeveloped country Israel once was. His new plan for rural settlement is aimed at no less than solving the social problems afflicting the leading Western nations of the world — "which in gaining material riches have lost their basic system of values."

Weitz, a professor of rural regional development, has been asked to detail this plan next month at the UN Food and Agriculture Organization's world conference, which will be attended by 1,500 delegates from 128 countries.

WEITZ'S newly published book on the subject, which he will present to the conference, is dedicated "to the Jewish Agency for Israel, on the occasion of its jubilee, for the most unique of accomplishments: human transformation."

"The Jewish Agency," Weitz says, peering his office, "through long, patient and sometimes uncolourful efforts, achieved something desperately needed the world over — transforming man's

way of life, his social and human bonds.

"When the Jewish Agency was asked to take on the task over 30 years ago it was an incredible job. I can remember arriving at the airport one morning at dawn with Levi Eshkol (former prime minister and then head of the Settlement Department) as the first plane-load of immigrants arrived from Yemen, bringing with them the inheritance and burden of the Third World.

"As the families disembarked with the bewildered looks on their faces, in their traditional garb, Eshkol looked at me and asked, 'Do you really think that out of these people we'll see what we dream about' — the new Jewish farmer?"

"Thank G-d I lived to see this impossible dream realized. This success is due to the basic qualities of the Jewish Agency — a comprehensive approach in concept and planning, full coordination between the plan and people in the field, and above all remembering that the human quality is the real yardstick of success."

WEITZ STRESSES that these problems have been dealt with on a concrete level — not in theory but in practice. Now, he says, "we're on the threshold of a new problem which is characteristic of the developed world."

"Where is the source of malaise in Sweden and the U.S., in which families disintegrate, and the individuals ask themselves 'Who am I?' It's because in gaining material riches they lost the basic system of values."

"Why? Because the model for development of the West is based on the pivotal phenomenon that occupational mobility is linked to geographical mobility. Once one changes occupation one must change location. In the U.S. the

average family changes their home four times. Modern society is a society on the move. Unless a model is found in which new technology will not compel the individual to move continuously, then Western civilization is doomed spiritually and socially."

Weitz's answer to this problem is the industrial village (*kefar*) just now being developed in Israel — in which the society is based on all three sectors — agriculture, industry and services. Weitz calls this approach "integrated rural development," and hopes it will provide an environment where members of an individual family can work in different sectors and still remain in the same physical setting.

"Rural Israel is on the verge of social revolution, the time tackling the problems of Western civilization," Weitz says, completing the interview and what must be the 50th orbit of his office. "I'm satisfied with our past success, and confident for future adventures in human transformation of a different kind. □"

Seasoned settler

MATTATYA Drobless was put in a very unenviable position one year ago, when he was thrust into chairing leadership of the Jewish Agency's settlement department, which had for years been chaired solely by Prof. Ra'anana Weitz.

The two differ radically on the political questions surrounding settlement. Drobless staunchly supports unlimited settlement in all areas of Biblical Israel. Weitz believes the department must focus its limited resources on what he calls the more realistic goal of settlement within pre-1967 Israel.

Political differences notwithstanding, a more experienced person for the co-chairman's job could not have been found. Drobless has lived on a settlement since the first day he arrived from Argentina, some 28 years ago.

"I'VE SERVED in all the different capacities of the settlement," Drobless said. "For 28 years I saw what it was like to be on the other side of the settlement coin, on the receiving end of the agency's policies. Thus during my past year as co-chairman I've tried to solve here the problems I felt there as a settler."

His year's services in the city has impressed him with the way the department is run. "The organization, with its 600 employees nationwide, is an apparatus of professional people working earnestly, above and beyond the call of duty, for the rural settler."

EVERYONE KNOWS the contribution of moshavim and kibbutzim to the nation, economically (by realizing agricultural self-sufficiency), socially (in absorbing immigrants) and militarily (by providing a defensive shield on the nation's frontiers). They have also worked as a population magnet, not only in attracting the

Western immigrant looking for a new way of life, but also in holding the restless urban sabra, who might leave Israel if there were not another life style available.

Drobless reports that there are three times as many applicants for new settlements as there is money to provide roofs for them. He divides the would-be settler into three categories.

"The first group, which I would estimate constitutes 30-40 per cent of our applicants, is the Israeli sabra, an idealist who wants to do something for his homeland. This person is tired of city life, he believes in different standards, in an equal society, and wants to build his life in a community where he will be contributing to himself and his society."

"The second category, which constitutes about the same percentage, is the young man who wants a family, but doesn't have a millionaire father to help him with housing. He only answer is either a development town or a rural settlement. He is a pragmatic settler, not an idealistic one, but he is every bit as good."

The final 30 per cent are new immigrants. These are people who have discovered their Jewish identity, and have come here because of it. But rather than live in Tel Aviv, which has the bad points of New York without its redeeming qualities, he wants a different type of life."

Drobless, who survived the Warsaw Ghetto and came to Israel before the advent of prefabricated housing for new settlers, does not begrudge today's pioneers any comforts or demand that personal happiness be a secondary consideration to the overall needs of the state. "I don't want the settler to suffer," he says. "If it's not good for him, it's not good for the country. If it's good for him, the country will benefit." □



not even accept new members now, for lack of space. The government promised us more houses but this also hasn't materialized. We have to do all the work ourselves, which means doing a lot of overtime and always being on the run, otherwise nothing is completed on time. And we cannot let our clients down. We are all beginning to feel the consequences of the pressure and stress."

A small, tightly-knit community of young people, miles from their nearest Jewish neighbours and overburdened with responsibilities, is the best environment for tensions to develop.

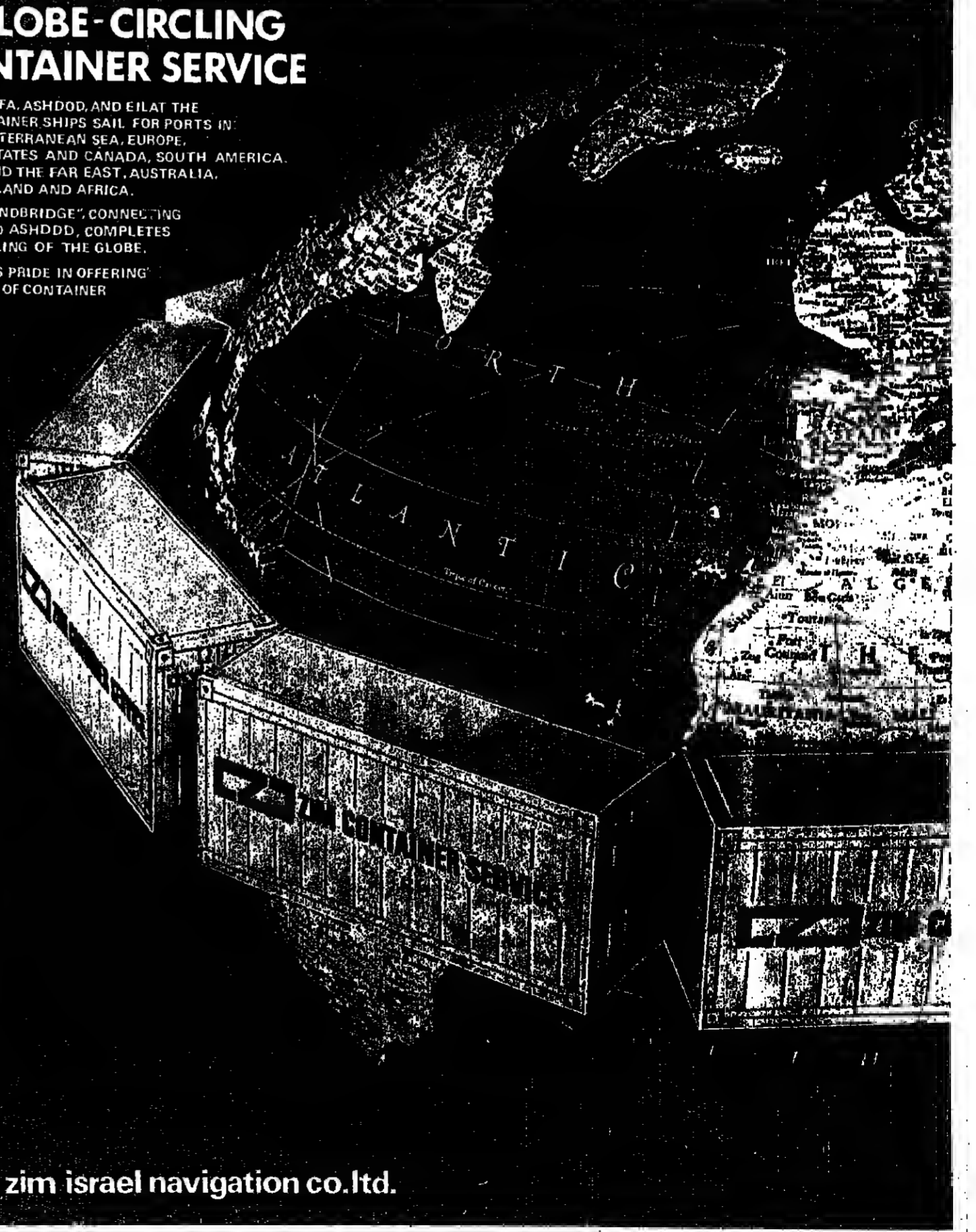
"Isolated? It may look like that but we are not really isolated," misad Shilo. "We are roughly 25 minutes away by car from Haifa. Whenever I feel like going to a city again I can. Besides, why should I feel isolated. I have my family here, and I am living with the people I have chosen to be around me. Loneliness is much more of a problem in town, where you are

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THOSE DIASPORA Jewish contributors who think that peace is less expensive than war are mistaken, says Jewish Agency treasurer Akiva Lewinsky, who must worry constantly about limited income in the face of increasing needs.

An experienced financier whose last job was as a senior director of Bank Hapoalim, Lewinsky must try to balance the books while being cognizant of the fact that the Agency's receipts can't be measured in profits and loss figures.

A number of events and trends taking place simultaneously in the Jewish world contribute to the Agency's financial problems. "This is the biggest year of Jewish emigration in a long time. One hundred thousand Jews will have left their homes and looked for new ones this year," Lewinsky says. About 60,000 of them will be Russians, 25,000 of them Iranians and the rest Jews from other countries of distress and the West. About 40,000 Jews from all around the world will come to Israel, and they must be absorbed."

The emigration to North America of nearly 70 per cent of the Russian Jews now leaving also affects the Jewish Agency.

Funds spent by the American Jewish community to absorb Russian Jewish dropouts in the U.S. often come at the expense of Israel. Lewinsky thinks that the local communities are finally beginning to view the dropouts as a very expensive problem that might better be solved in Israel. The American Jewish com-

Peace isn't cheap

JUDY SIEGEL talks to Agency Treasurer AKIVA LEWINSKY, who has to deal with the problems of increasing and skyrocketing costs of a limited budget.



munity has also come to recognize the utmost urgency of Jewish education as the main way to fight the powerful forces of assimilation and intermarriage that are eating into the U.S. Jewish population. Much as these expenditures are welcome, they too effect the percentage of Federation-raised funds that are available to the Jewish Agency.

And several of the Agency's own departments spend large sums on sending teachers abroad and on formal and informal educational programmes for Diaspora youngsters sent here.

For the first time, Lewinsky has prepared a three-year Agency budget instead of one year at a plomont the peace agreement with Egypt) and in the Galilee will

being rubber stamps approving a budget that is already printed and ready to be implemented.

"This time they'll have to work on it and decide for themselves what activities should be given priority," Lewinsky maintains. And having a budget that runs for three years allows the Agency to pay greater attention to long-term planning.

Lewinsky envisions that Project Renewal, Prime Minister Menachem Begin's joint Agency-Government plan to rehabilitate slum neighbourhoods and their residents, has gotten bogged down in disputes among the government, the Jewish Agency and the local authorities. "But this has never been done before," he points out. "The project is not mere slum clearance, but human rebuilding as well."

"We won't be able to see the results quickly or in a clear-cut way, like a before-and-after picture of a man who has shaved. It is a gradual process."

Although Lewinsky is primarily interested in Agency income and only secondarily in expenditures, he is attempting to cut the administrative fat, along with Agency director-general Shmuel Lahis. Job slots will be cut 15 per cent — by not filling jobs that become vacant and moving employees from one department where they are redundant to another department where they are needed.

Although the Agency can't be run like a bank, the Swiss-born, soft-spoken Lewinsky has already begun to infuse the Agency with his brand of clear-thinking business procedures. □

To the Jewish Agency on its 50th Anniversary

CONGRATULATIONS!

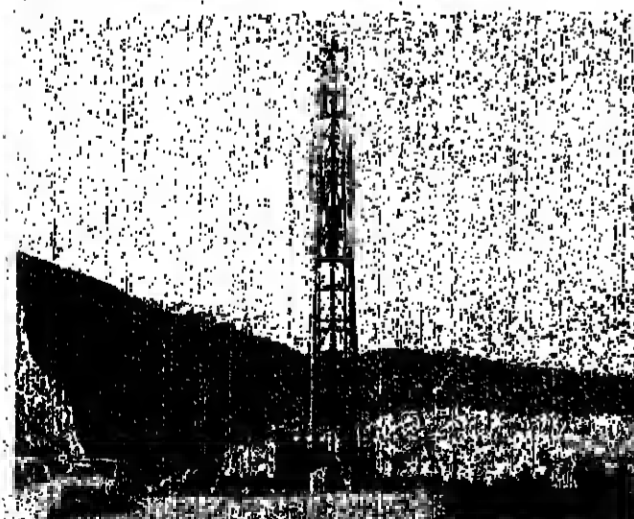
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MEKOROT IN FIGURES

Number of employees	3,600
Number of customers	3,650
Water supplied annually	1,100,000,000 cu.m.
Length of pipelines	4,200 km.
Water reservoirs	376
Pumping stations	390
Artificial reservoirs	10
Drillings for water	680
Annual turnover	IL3,800,000,000



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Project Renewal—the first phase

The initial year has been a running-in period for the government-Jewish Agency programme of neighbourhood rehabilitation.



STUDIES MADE during the first year of Project Renewal (adopted by the Jewish Agency Assembly in 1978) have confirmed the necessity for a comprehensive approach to the rehabilitation of distressed neighbourhoods. Analyses of the 30 neighbourhoods comprising the first phase show that while the problem of housing does exist, it is by no means the major problem despite the large sums required to solve it.

It is now evident that any attempt to rehabilitate a distressed neighbourhood without the active involvement of its residents in the conceptual and planning stages will result in failure. There are clear indications that residents are more concerned with the lack of social, educational, recreational and health services than with the need for improved and larger housing.

Extensive efforts have been made to organize residents' committees — by housing-blocks or neighbourhoods—in order to create representative bodies that will be involved in the entire rehabilitation process. This has proved to be difficult and time-consuming, because there is a lack of trust, a lack of leadership and a lack of motivation among local people. Nevertheless, perseverance by the local authorities and planners has created the beginnings of effective cooperation and has led to the formation of residents' committees.

Following a period of uncertainty, the government and the Jewish Agency worked out an agreement on modes of operation, including the linking of Jewish Communities overseas with Project Renewal neighbourhoods. Recently, 32 additional neighbourhoods were listed for linking purposes. Studies and surveys made of these neighbourhoods reflect the experience gained in working on the first group of 30 neighbourhoods.

The procedure now provides for the establishment of a steering committee in each neighbourhood listed for Project Renewal, by the joint government-Jewish Agency



Committee. These committees are formed of representatives of the neighbourhood, local authority, government and Jewish Agency, with Keren Hayesod and UJA representatives also participating. Steering committee meetings are held regularly insofar as possible. Their recommendations must be unanimously agreed and are then referred to the over-all joint committee, for final approval.

Both the United Jewish Appeal and Keren Hayesod are actively engaged in the linking of overseas communities with Project Renewal neighbourhoods. These activities include visits by campaign missions and leaders to neighbourhoods being considered for adoption; meetings with mayors and local leaders in Israel; visits to overseas adopting communities by mayors; preparation of printed and audiovisual materials about Project Renewal in general as well as specific neighbourhoods.

AN IMPORTANT element of Project Renewal is the assignment of project managers to specific neighbourhoods. The project manager has the key task in the coordination of various elements, such as planners, community workers, residents' group and local officials. In some cases, the project managers represent publicly-owned companies, specializing in the fields of planning and urban development, such as Halamish and Ezrah and Bitzaron in Tel Aviv. Where no project manager has been assigned the head of the local council fills this role.

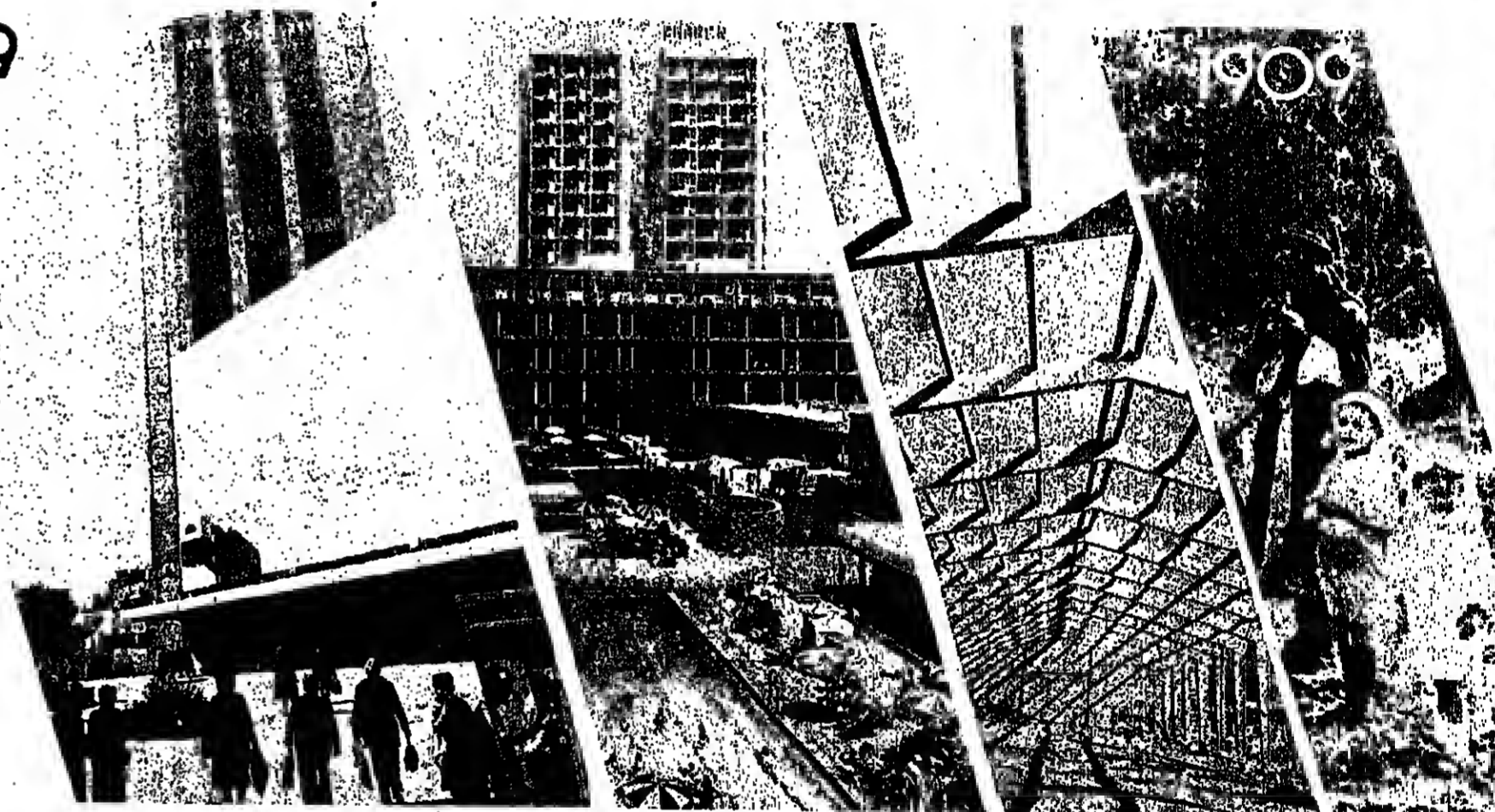
In some neighbourhoods, substantial progress in the rehabilitation process has been made as well as in developing a sense of partnership with an overseas community. In others, progress has been slower.

The past year may be considered a "running-in" year for Project Renewal. Experience has been gained, issues and goals have come into sharper focus. □

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"...THERE IS LAND to be bought and prepared, there are roads and railroads, harbours, bridges to be built, there are hills to be afforested, there are marshes to be drained, there is fertile soil to be irrigated, there is latent water - water to be turned to account, there are towns to be laid out, there are crafts and industries to be developed. Sida by sida with these undertakings, adequate provision for the social welfare of the population, for public health, and above all, for education."

Funds for nation-building

Delegates to this week's Jewish Agency Jubilee Assembly come from three constituent bodies - the World Zionist Organization, the UJA-UIA, and Keren Hayesod. On these pages, the organizations describe their roles in the Jewish Agency.

-First Keren Hayesod Manifesto
London, December 24, 1920

THESE WORDS, first published at the London Zionist Conference in 1920, proclaim the birth of Keren Hayesod, the first mass-fund-raising organization for Palestine.

The message is a clear one; building a nation. It takes manpower, ingenuity, courage, resources, and the money to pull all of the above together. United Israel Appeal - Keren Hayesod, for 80 years has shared the tasks of nation-building, by collecting the funds needed to help build and maintain the Jewish nation, UIA - KH ensures that the land will continue to be bought and prepared, the roads, railroads, harbours, and bridges to be built?"

In those early days, before the state, the fund-raiser was just as persistent as today. Maybe even more so. The manifesto of 1920 proclaimed, "no casual charity will suffice. The exceptional needs of today demand the effort of self-taxation steady, persistent, systematic, inspired by the noble tradition of the tithe...no Jew worthy of the name, will, at this solemn moment, take the responsibility of sheltering himself behind the powerlessness of his people."

Heading the cell, Keren Hayesod emissaries travelled throughout the world to raise funds for the fledgling community in Palestine. Travelling was not a Boeing 747 experience. On slow-moving ships, the workers reached the farthest corner of the globe. Leib Jaffe, first managing co-director of Keren Hayesod, relates "how grateful I was to receive a contribution of 50 chickens from an impoverished farmer in Argentina who had no cash to give me, as for one of 800 pesos (\$300) from a substantial businessman in Buenos Aires." United Israel Appeal - Keren Hayesod offices today do not receive many chickens, but the special partnership between world Jewry and the Israeli



Early leaders of the Zionist movement present at the cornerstone laying of the Keren Hayesod building in 1928 include (left to right) Yitzhak Ben-Zvi; Va'ad Leumi chairman, and second president of Israel; Berl Lohrer; Agency executive member; Emanuel Neumann, American member of the executive; Menahem Ussishkin, Jewish National Fund Chairman; Leib Jaffe, first Keren Hayesod director. (Keren Hayesod Photo Service)

citizen continues to thrive, meeting the challenges of Israel's social and humanitarian needs. The figures speak for themselves. In 80 years of fund-raising, more than \$1,600,000 was collected.

NEXT YEAR will mark the 60th anniversary of Keren Hayesod's active participation in the unfolding of this modern Jewish saga. UIA-KH World Chairman Dr. Avraham Avi-hal stresses the importance of a strong leadership of world Jewry linked in common purpose. Dr. Avi-hal has been instrumental in creating a World

Board of Trustees, comprised of an equal number of Israeli members of Keren Hayesod's Board of Directors and representatives of the campaigns throughout the world. The World Board will be entrusted with the planning of campaign strategy and policies, budgetary considerations, and will act as a liaison between Keren Hayesod offices and the World Zionist Executive and the Jewish Agency. "We here in Jerusalem are conscious of our responsibilities as the link between Israel and World Jewry. We must enhance Jewish

community leadership for Israel and foster greater involvement of younger people in their community and campaign responsibilities," states Avi-hal. Keren Hayesod moved out of its temporary offices in London in 1928 and has been headquartered in Jerusalem ever since. Today, its activities extend to 50 countries on five continents. Along with the assistance provided to regular campaigns, the head office has expanded its role to include a Leadership Development Division, a Woman's Division section and a Young Leadership section to

Herzl's movement

"IN BASLE I have founded the Jewish State," wrote Theodor Herzl after the First Zionist Congress, held in the Swiss city in 1897. When Herzl actually founded at Basle was the World Zionist Organization, which has been the main instrument of the Jewish people for the founding of their state, and for the continuing links between it and Jews in the Diaspora. Zionism has come a long way since that day, and is near fulfill-

ing the prophecy of Chaim Nachmann Bielik, who wrote in 1929, on the founding of the Jewish Agency by a partnership of the WZO and "non-Zionist" fund-raisers from around the Jewish world - that the Agency and the WZO should "enlarge their scope to the point where Zionist and Jew become synonymous." The World Zionist Organization played a decisive role in the preparation, unification and mobilization of the Jewish people,

in preparing Eretz Israel for the renewal of Jewish national independence, in building and developing a Jewish defence force, the Haganah organization. The activities of the Zionist movement included Jewish national revival among the Jewish people; Aliya to Israel, Jewish settlement in Eretz Israel and political efforts to influence peoples and governments. This led to the publication of the Balfour Declaration in 1917, to the approval of the Mandate on Palestine in 1920, and to the establishment of the state in 1948. After the establishment of Israel, the aims and tasks of the Zionist movement were re-defined at the 23rd Congress, the first held in Jerusalem after the founding of the state. This was called the "Jerusalem Programme" and its goals were: "Strengthening Israel, gathering the exiles in

Eretz Israel and securing the unity of the Jewish people; "The unity of the Jewish people and the centrality of the State of Israel in the life of the people; "The ingathering of the Jewish people in its historical homeland Eretz Israel by aliya from all countries; "The strengthening of the State of Israel which is founded on the prophetic ideals of justice and peace; "Preserving the uniqueness of the people by promoting Jewish and Hebrew education and by cultivating Jewish spiritual and cultural values; "Defending the rights of the Jews wherever they live." In accordance with the Jerusalem Programme, the principal tasks of the World Zionist Organization are directed at organizing the Jewish people in support of the State of Israel; at

reach out to specialized groups in countries throughout the world.

IN THIS year of peace, the Jewish Agency's work assumes added significance. The nation's resources will be strained as equipment, manpower and material head south to effect the redeployment of Israel Defence Forces and build new civilian settlements. UIA-KH is prepared to help meet the challenge.

"Peace is vital to the achievement of our Zionist and human goals and Israel is making every possible sacrifice to bear the brunt of expenses involved in reaching peace. However, we should be aware that budgetary cuts will slash to the very core of our society, as education loses a part of its budget, and subsidies given to distressed families, and the incentive payments granted to development towns are reduced," says Dr. Avi-hal.

The problems of the disadvantaged in Israel, a full 10 per cent of the population, could be exacerbated as their own personal expectations of improvement rise with the advent of peaceful relations with Egypt. Project Renewal, initiated more than a year ago to alleviate social and physical distress in Israel has been enthusiastically accepted by UIA-KH communities throughout the world.

"Project Renewal provides World Jewry with a totally unique avenue of expression. Jewish communities abroad have been invited to join with Project Renewal communities in Israel, working together with them toward their full restoration," explains Avi-hal.

Nineteen campaigns, individuals and trusts of the world family of UIA-KH have entered partnerships with 20 distressed neighbourhoods. To date, \$24 million has been committed to the project over a five year period. This sum is above and beyond the regular campaign monies raised annually.

Keren Hayesod has come a long way from its humble beginnings in London in 1920. Sharing the funding of the Jewish Agency's Budget for Immigration and Absorption, Youth Care, Settlements, Health Care, Housing, Education, and Social Welfare Services, the United Israel Appeal - Keren Hayesod has participated in the changing of the face of the State of Israel. In the words of the Manifesto of 1920:

"...The Gates of Palestine are no longer banned from within. The key is in the hands of the Jewish people..." □

encouraging aliya from the Diaspora; at promoting Jewish education and spreading knowledge of the Hebrew language and Hebrew culture; at disseminating the values of Judaism and Zionism among the Jews of the Diaspora; at assisting and encouraging Jewish youth organizations in the Diaspora. The World Zionist Organization organizes the Jewish people in supporting actively the Jerusalem Programme. In a "roll-call" of members organized in 1971 in 1977 in the free countries of the Diaspora, one million Jews declared themselves as members of the World Zionist Organization.

THE CREATION of the United Jewish Appeal was a direct response to the infamous *Kristallnacht* of November 10, 1938, when the synagogues of Germany were burned and scores of Jews were beaten and killed. The shattering of the glass of Jewish storefronts literally crystallized the realization by the leaders of American Jewry that only a centralized fund-raising body could fully mobilize the resources needed to meet the crisis confronting the Jews of Europe on the eve of World War II.

The three signatories were Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, Rabbi Abbe Hillel Silver and William Rosenwald. They represented, respectively, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), the United Palestine Appeal and the National Coordinating Committee for Aid to Refugee. The UJA thus became the single American Jewish fundraising organization for the work of relief and rehabilitation in Europe, for immigration and settlement in Palestine and for refugee aid in the United States.

The senior constituent agency in the merger was the JDC, founded in 1914 to meet the welfare needs of the small Jewish settlement in Palestine and of East European Jews whose countries were transformed into battlegrounds following the outbreak of World War I. In the course of its 65-year history of rescue, relief and rehabilitation, the JDC has expended more than \$1.1 billion in supplying food, clothing, shelter, medical aid, child care, educational assistance, vocational training and economic rehabilitation of Jews in Israel and some 80 other countries. It also provides an annual subvention to the world-wide vocational training programmes of the Organisation for Rehabilitation through Training (ORT). The JDC remains one of the two corporate members of the United Jewish Appeal.

The United Palestine Appeal was established in 1925 to coordinate fund-raising efforts in America devoted to the upbuilding of Jewish life in Palestine. Its functions expanded and evolved with the creation of the State of Israel and the growing magnitude of immigrant needs there; it is now known as the United Israel Appeal, Inc. (UIA). The UIA is the other corporate member of the United Jewish Appeal and, today, its principal beneficiary. Its primary responsibility is the supervision of the flow of funds and their expenditure for the resettlement and ab-

Significant contribution



Blue-jacketed UJA leaders, at 1976 'This Year in Jerusalem' mass mission to Israel.

sorption of refugees in Israel. Since 1973, UIA has allocated more than \$1,500,000,000 to the Jewish Agency for philanthropic programmes in Israel. The National Coordinating Committee for Aid to Refugees, after several changes in designation, is now known as the New York Association for New Americans (NYANA). It was formed in 1959 after the Nazis gained power in Germany to help settle Jewish refugees from Europe in the United States, in cooperation with the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS).

organization for its two corporate members. UJA's net revenue from each campaign is allocated by mutual agreement of the JDC and UIA. It is divided on a formula basis after an allocation to NYANA, and after a grant to HIAS authorized by the JDC and UIA based on HIAS' needs. From its inception through December 31, 1977, UJA collected \$4.3 billion dollars, expended \$175 million and distributed approximately \$4.1 billion to beneficiary agencies. This has been accomplished through annual campaigns in almost 700 American Jewish communities. The bulk of these contributions is received through

allocations to UJA from the campaign of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds in major U.S. communities. In these communities campaign revenue, less local expenses, is allocated to UJA and to local health, welfare and education programmes. UJA receives all campaign revenues from non-federated communities, less local expenses.

DURING World War II, UJA realized a total of \$93.2 million in cash receipts. With these funds, UJA's agencies were able to rescue 192,000 Jews from Hitler's Europe. Of that total, 76,000 were brought to Palestine despite dangerous wartime conditions on land and sea; the other 86,000 reached the United States and other free countries. The 1930 campaign, the first under the aegis of the newly created UJA, produced \$11.5 million in cash, almost doubling the amount raised by the three component agencies the preceding year. By 1944, the last full year of the war, the amount had again been more than doubled, to \$26 million.

As the ghastly dimensions of the Holocaust and the desperate plight of the survivors in the DP camps became painfully clear, UJA leadership called for a new dimension in giving, setting a goal of \$100 million - considered impossible by many at the time - for the 1945 campaign. The American Jewish community met that goal and surpassed it the next year, when cash receipts totalled over \$110 million.

Between the end of the war in 1945 and May, 1949, because of severe restrictions on Jewish immigration into Palestine, UJA funds were used primarily to provide relief and welfare to more than 250,000 displaced persons waiting on Cyprus, in Allied Occupation Zone camps and in the rubble of their former homes in Eastern Europe - waiting for the renewal beyond survival.

In 1948, the chance came for that renewal. With the proclamation of the State of Israel, UJA's leadership again called for - and the Jewish community of America again surpassed - a new peak in giving; the 1948 campaign produced more than \$147 million in cash. On the strength of that peak performance, augmented by funds raised by Keren Hayesod from the rest of free world Jewry, the 25,000 detainees on Cyprus were transferred to Israel and the DP camps emptied by 1957. Until the outbreak of the Six Day War in 1967, the community response - while genuine, generous and wholehearted - fell short of matching the peak giving

year of 1948. From 1958 through 1966 allocations had settled down to a plateau of approximately \$60 million annually.

THE PLATEAU was shattered in 1967 in response to the Six Day War, when the UJA initiated the largest of its special funds, the Israel Emergency Fund. American Jews, including many who had never participated, pledged a combined total of \$22 million; cash receipts for the calendar year were a record \$285 million.

In the decade after that signal achievement - accelerated by the outpouring of funds following the Yom Kippur attack on Israel in 1973 - the UJA, through the federated end non-federated campaigns and through the expanded outreach of its programmes to an enlarged constituency, far exceeded what was previously thought to be the limits of American Jewish giving. It succeeded in maintaining high levels of annual campaign receipts in years without wars or major crises; pledges exceeded the Six Day War year level by almost 50 per cent.

UJA's proudest achievements over the decade were: raising more pledges in peace-time 1971 and 1972 than in wartime 1967, and collecting more cash in each of the past three years than in any previous non-war year.

SINCE THE 1967 breakthrough, UJA has developed an informed and involved volunteer and professional leadership whose global outlook and sense of unity has deepened into a constructive and positive force in Jewish life. It has become a multi-purpose, multi-faceted organization, with skilled technicians in a variety of areas reaching out to the total Jewish community of the country: students - faculty - laymen - women - young leaders - rabbis. It is involved in a wide variety of sophisticated domestic and international programmes, including sensitivity training, group dynamics, seminars, practicals... all for the purpose of upgrading the understanding and the fundraising effectiveness of its national officers, community chairmen, campaign leaders, workers and new recruits.

This leadership developed and motivated through these programmes - which are carried out in consultation and coordination with the communities and with the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds (CJFF) - has achieved broadness of vision and clarity of purpose. □



Youth from around the world attended quiz on Zionism, sponsored by WZO and the Israel Ministry of Education.